



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 24, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Grant Program

In pursuit of its goal to improve teacher quality, the State Board of Education (SBE) approves criteria for the management of grant funds supporting various teacher quality state initiatives. These proposed criteria are in alignment with the purposes and allowable activities described in Enrolled House Bill 4346, section 505 (appropriations line item) and No Child Left Behind Act, Title II, Part A(1), Improving Teacher and Principal Quality Grants.

Grant funds awarded through this program are focused on substantially improving teacher quality. Michigan receives federal subsidy funding to support teachers seeking National Board Certification. These federal grants can only be used to fund half of the total National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) fee. The Michigan Department of Education distributes state funds to assist with the other half of the fee. Combined, these grants ensure that candidates receive financial support for their efforts.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Grant Program, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated March 24, 2008.

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Criteria for National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate Subsidy Grants

The State Board of Education has adopted as its Strategic Goal "Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students/children with primary emphasis on high priority schools and students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

**PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT**

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate Subsidy Grants will provide financial support to ensure excellent educators and improve teacher quality throughout the state.

**BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT**

☒ Competitive    ☐ Formula    ☐ New    ☒ Continuation    (*check all that apply*)

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate Subsidy Grants will enable coordination between federal and state subsidy grant award programs as well as subsidy grant awards at the local and regional level, to ensure all candidates for National Board Certification receive financial support for their efforts. This collaboration will provide funding for up to 90 candidates each year.

**CRITERIA**

Date criteria were last approved: 1995

☒ Defined in Legislation    ☐ Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder    ☒ Proposed by Staff

- Currently employed Michigan K-12 public or private school teachers.
- Funds are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

**ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT**

Any currently employed Michigan K-12 public or private school teacher.

**TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE**

\$100,000.00/year

**LEGISLATION**

Enrolled House Bill 4346, section 505 (appropriations line item)

**OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT**

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